

C. Remarks

The claims are 9-15, with claims 9, 11 and 15 being independent. Claim 9 has been amended to clarify that the fuel that is produced is a modified internal combustion spark ignition engine fuel. No new matter has been added.

Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 11-15.

Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly obvious from U.S. Patent No. 4,378,973 (Sweeney). The grounds of rejection are respectfully traversed.

Sweeney is directed to a process for reducing exhaust emissions of diesel fuels. The present invention, as recited in claims 9 and 10, however, is related to a method for producing a fuel composition for a modified internal combustion spark ignition engine, i.e., gasoline-type fuel. Gasoline fuel is clearly different from diesel fuel disclosed in Sweeney. In fact, this reference specifically distinguishes gasoline from diesel fuel at column 2, lines 3-10.

The Examiner acknowledged during a telephonic interview with the undersigned that diesel and gasoline fuels are different. However, the Examiner indicated that claims 9 and 10 were rejected over Sweeney because these claims mention the type of fuel being produced only in the preamble, and that the recitation in the preamble is not entitled to any patentable weight.

While Applicants disagree with the Examiner's position, in order to expedite prosecution, claim 9 has been amended so that the body of this claim states that the fuel composition being produced is a modified internal combustion spark ignition

engine fuel. Accordingly, since Sweeney does not disclose or suggest any gasoline fuel compositions, much less those for a modified internal combustion spark ignition engine, the outstanding rejection should be withdrawn.

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, expedient passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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